

THE JACOBS REPORT

GILDA Z. JACOBS
MICHIGAN SENATE
Assistant Democratic Floor Leader
FOURTEENTH DISTRICT

For Immediate Release
November 4, 2005

Contact: Matt Levin
(517) 373-7888

ANNOUNCEMENT TODAY ON JOBS PLAN

Governor, Republican Leaders Tight-Lipped on Compromise

According to sources at the Capitol, Governor Jennifer Granholm, House Speaker Craig DeRoche (R-Novi) and Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema (R-Wyoming) struck an agreement last night on a combination of business tax cuts and investments in high tech, life sciences and other growing sectors of the economy.

Few details have been made available at this time, but a joint press conference is scheduled for 2 p.m. this afternoon.

Last week, the House countered the Senate's \$1 billion 21st Century Jobs plan with a series of business tax cuts amounting to \$700 million over four years, with the remaining \$300 million allocated to the jobs fund. Both plans used securitized funds from Michigan's tobacco suit settlement.

Apparently, Governor Granholm's compromise agreement will follow the House's blueprint more closely than that of the Senate.

The governor initiated the jobs issue with a \$2 billion bond proposal in early 2005. Originally, she preferred a revenue-neutral approach over any net cut in taxes.

The governor's change of heart may have been influenced by the Michigan Manufacturers Association and the auto industry, both of which had earlier supported her bonding proposal but now prefer the House plan.

LEGISLATURE FINISHES TELECOM REWRITE

Final Touches Pass with Relative Ease

This session's major rewrite of Michigan's telecommunications law finally finished its legislative course and is on its way to Governor Jennifer Granholm for signature.

Without debate, the Senate voted unanimously to approve HB 5237.

Included in the bill are basic provisions for telephone and telecommunications services, along with the usual basic service rate restrictions for low income and disabled customers.

GROUP NAMES SEN. GILDA JACOBS “LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR” MI Surgeon General: Special Recognition Well Deserved

The Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America – Michigan Chapter has named Senator Gilda Z. Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods) as Legislator of the Year.

Jacobs was the primary author of Public Act 120 which permits children to carry and self-administer asthma inhalers and/or epinephrine auto-injectors while attending Michigan camps.

“The new legislation reduces delays in dispensing medication for children with allergies or asthma, and timely intervention is essential when children suffer asthma attacks or severe allergic reactions,” said MI Surgeon General Kimberlydawn Wisdom, MD, MS. “This new legislation mitigates delays in dispensing medication for children who attend camps throughout our state.”

Michigan is the third state in the United States to pass such life-saving legislation. Nearly 5 million of the nation’s 20 million asthma sufferers are under age 18. It is the most common chronic childhood disease, affecting more than one in 20 children. Among children ages five to 17, asthma is the leading cause of school absences from a chronic illness. The Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) is the leading patient organization for people with asthma and allergies. Founded in 1953, the AAFA provides practical information, community based services and support through a national network of chapters and support groups. The AAFA also develops health education, organizes state and national advocacy efforts and funds research to find better treatments and cures.

All Michigan legislation can be tracked at <http://www.legislature.michigan.gov/> .

State Senator Gilda Jacobs represents the 14th Senate District, which includes Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Franklin, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Township, Southfield, and Southfield Township. She is the Minority Vice Chair of the Families & Human Services Committee and the Economic Development, Small Business & Regulatory Reform Committee. She also serves on the Government Operations and Health Policy Committees.

Constituents of the 14th District may contact Senator Jacobs at sengjacobs@senate.michigan.gov or toll-free at 1-888-937-4453.

This newsletter is produced in single-space form in order to save paper and transmission costs.

Matthew J. Levin
Legislative Director
Senator Gilda Z. Jacobs
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909-7536
(517) 373-7888
mlevin@senate.michigan.gov